An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore is provided for Cobalt Therapy Unit to the Non-Government Organisations.

The Mammography equipments has also been included under the scheme for setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit. A Central assistance up to Rs. 30.00 lakhs is provided to those institutions/organisations who have the facilities for treatment of cancer patients and has well-equipped Radiotherapy Department. All these are on-time grant.

District Cancer Control Programme

A scheme of district project (duration-five years) for health education, detection and pain relief measures under National Cancer Control Programme was initiated during the year 1990-91. In this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Qovemment/UT administration for each district selected under the scheme with a provision of Rs. 10.00 lakhs per annum for each district for the remaining four years of the project period. After five years, the project is to be taken over by the State ©overnment.

Financial Assistance to Registered Voluntary Organisations

Under the scheme assistance upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs is provided to the Voluntary Organisations tor undertaking health education and early detection activities in cancer on the specific recommendations of the State ©overnments.

Regional Cancer Centres

This Ministry has recognised 19 Regional Cancer Centres in different States/UTs. The Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH), AIIMS, New Delhi have got a different funding pattern. Remaining RCCs are paid an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of cancer.

UN Special Session on Children

*103. SHRILAJPAT RAI: WiH the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had committed itself to meet the goals set at the 1990 World Summit for Children;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a decade later, when the UN Special Session on Children met to review the progress on these commitments, India was among the defaulting nations; and

(c) if so, the factors that led to not meeting he targets set particularly for nutrition and child health care?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRISHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (c) The first World Summit for Children held in 1990, adopted a Declaration that included goals for the survival, growth and development of children. The UN General Assembly Special Session on Children was held in New York from 8—10, May 2002, to review the achievements made by the member countries *vis-a-vis \o* the goals and to decide future plan of action. As per the "Progress-A Statstical Review" released by UNICEF for the UN General Assembly Special Session for Children, India's rate of progress regarding most indicators has been higher than the global average.

Child health and nutrition indicators have improved. Substantial progress has been achieved in reducing the infant mortality rate. The infant morality rate declined from 114 per thousand live births in 1980 to 80 per thousand live births in 1990. Infant mortality rate further declined to 68 per thousand live births in the year 2000. Improvement has also been recorded in the nutritional status of children. The National Family Health Survey-2 (1998-99) reported that the percentage of children who are underweight under are three years was 47 per cent as compared to 53 per cent reported by the National Family Health Survey-1 (1992-93).

Export Promotion Zones for Medicinal and Herbal Products

*104. SHRIMATI N.R DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Medicinal Plants Board has decided to setup export promotion zones exclusively for medicinal and herbal products in States; and